

the new growth springs to life cannot be accounted for in any other way than that there is a correlation of vital forces, both vegetable and animal, by which new species may be generated under surroundings, congenial to their existence, and especially the lower forms of both vegetable and animal life, just as heat, motion, electricity and other energies are converted one into the other. That the entire change of circumstances into which the inroad of the more enlightened and civilized white man has driven the poor Indian is the cause of the prevalence of scrofula and consumption amongst them and the reason of their gradual extermination, and not syphilitic contagion, is, I think, beyond doubt. What, then, is the moral and Christian duty of the Government of Canada. Surely to teach them not only to read and write and grow crops, but also all the up to date sanitary knowledge, of how to guard against and lessen the ravages of this terrific enemy of their race, so that at least a remnant of a really clever and most interesting people may be preserved. And to this end, while I occupied the position I held in the Indian Department, I endeavored, by the issue of printed sanitary rules and precepts to agents, school teachers and missionaries, with the request to inculcate them continuously, in season and out of season, as well as by occasional addresses by myself, pointing out the contagious character of these affections and the necessity of thorough cleanliness and disinfection. I may say that nearly all the missionaries of every denomination made these printed rules the subject of sermons and addresses, so that with the cordial assistance which I also usually received from both the various agents and teachers, a very marked change for the better has taken place, and now, instead of going into an Indian house where a consumptive lived, and finding the floor and walls as well as bed, often bespattered with the filthy expectoration from a breaking-down lung, and other surroundings dirty beyond description, I find, as a rule, great care taken to destroy the sputa, and a

vastly more cleanly appearance in all the Indian houses. Whitewashing and thorough cleaning was done every spring and autumn, and when a consumptive dies in a house it is often burned down and a new log house built, or else it is well disinfected, the walls and floors washed with bichloride solution and whitewashed inside and outside, so thoroughly alive have the great majority become to the infectious character of consumption. And though still a great deal prevails, I notice a very marked difference from what it was nine years ago, when I first undertook the duties.

With regard to the treatment, etc., and the amount of success therein, I may in a future correspondence give some account thereof.

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RECENT THERAPEUTICS IN OPHTHALMOLOGY

By R. C. Pattilli, M.D., C.M., Instructor in Ophthalmology in the Chicago Post-Graduate School.

During the past twelve months I have been trying to find some drugs that would take the place of iodoform and nitrate of silver in the treatment of eye diseases. Iodoform having a very disagreeable odor and nitrate of silver being irritating are objectionable.

In reading translations from German literature I was fortunate to find an article by Dr. Karl Hoor, Professor of the Royal Hungarian University in Klausenburg, entitled "Nosophen and Antinosine in Ophthalmology." Nosophen as given in Dr. Hood's paper is a tetraiodophenol phtalein, a combination of iodine and phenolphthalein, the amount of iodine present being 61.7 per cent. It is a light brown yellowish powder insoluble in water and acids. Nosophen has been used by me in the clinic of Professor W. Franklin Coleman at the Post-Graduate Medical School, Chicago, in over twenty-five consecutive cases in which there were indications for the use of iodoform, with most excellent results. In no case could be